

Message Text

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17

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

DHA-02 EB-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-11 OMB-01 SCCT-01 OPR-02

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R 131025Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3504

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSZENAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0076

3.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, SO

SUBJECT: REPORTS OF US AID'S DIVERSION OF SHABELE RIVER

REF: 75 ADDIS ABABA 14678

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS FROM LOCAL SOMALI OBSERVERS THAT SUBJECT CURRENTLY MAKING ROUND OF SDR OFFICIALS CONCERNS US AID DIVERSION OF SHABELE IN ETHIOPIA.

2. ACCORDING VARIOUS SOURCES, SOMALI SUPREME REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (SRC) RECENTLY RECEIVED SECRET DOCUMENT FROM FAO HQS IN ROME DESCRIBING US-FINANCED IRRIGATION PROJECT IN OGADEN ON SHABELA RIVER IN ETHIOPIA WHICH WOULD DIVERT ALL OF SHABELE WATERS. US IS CONTRIBUTING US \$29 MILLION TO PROJECT, WHICH IS TO BE STAFFED WITH ISRAELI EXPERTS.

3. ABOVE REPORT WAS EVIDENTLY WIDELY DISCUSSED AT RECENT SRC COLLOQUIUM OF INTELLECTUALS, CHAIRED BY SIAD, ALTHOUGH NONE OF PARTICIPANTS ACTUALLY EXAMINED FAO QTE SECRET UNQTE REPORT.

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4. WHETHER ABOVE REPRESENTS MISINTERPRETATION OF US-FUNDED

PROJECTS IN ETHIOPIA, UNINTENTIONAL GARBLE OR MALICIOUS PIECE OF ANTI-US PROPAGANDA, WE DO NOT RPT NOT KNOW, BUT SUSPECT LATTER. ABOVE REPORT COULD HAVE BEEN USED BY SDR OR OTHERS IN MOBILIZING GUERRILLA ACTIVITY IN OGADEN (REFTEL).

5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE MORE PRECISE INFORMATION FROM ADDIS AND DEPT REGARDING ANY AID PROGRAMS IN ETHIOPIA WHICH MIGHT POSSIBLY BE MISINTERPRETED ALONG ABOVE LINES, OR COULD BE USED TO MISREPRESENT US ACTIVITIES IN ETHIOPIA.
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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